

Message Text

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ACTION VO-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-06 ISO-00 SCA-01 H-03 PRS-01 /015 W

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R 161052Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7319

INFO AMCONSUL POZNAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CVIS, PL

SUBJECT: VISIT OF STEVE SMIGIEL OF AMERICAN POLONIANS

REF: STATE 245914

1. DURING PERIOD DEC 21-JAN 7, VICE-CHAIRMAN SMIGIEL OF NEW JERSEY STATE CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN POLONIANS MET WITH AMBASSADOR, DCM, CHIEF OF CONSULAR SECTION (ON TWO DIFFERENT OCCASIONS), AND POZNAN CONSULAR OFFICER FOR BOTH GENERAL AND SPECIFIC DISCUSSIONS OF NIV PROBLEMS.
2. TALKS WERE USEFUL, FRIENDLY AND POSITIVE, AND EMBASSY FEELS THAT SMIGIEL HAS BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF CONSULAR OFFICERS' ROLE AND PROBLEMS INHERENT IN ADMINISTRATION OF INA. EMBASSY AGREES THAT ORGANIZATION'S APPROACH APPEARS TO BE FOCUS ON SPECIFIC CASES RATHER THAN GENERAL CRITICISM OF REFUSALS. SMIGIEL STATED HE FAVORS THIS APPROACH, BUT ADMITTED HE IS STILL IN PROCESS OF CONVERTING SOME OTHERS. FOLLOWING FINAL DISCUSSION IN CONSULAR SECTION HE STATED THAT GENERAL INFORMATION AND IMPRESSIONS HE HAS GAINED WILL REINFORCE HIS POSITION.
3. SMIGIEL RAISED ABOUT FIFTEEN CASES WITH EMBASSY AND TWO WITH POZNAN. AT EMBASSY, FOUR APPLICANTS HAD BEEN ISSUED OR PROMISED VISAS ALREADY, FIVE APPLICANTS SHOWED

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NO RPT NO RECORD WHATSOEVER, ONE APPLICANT WAS ISSUED B-2 IN

1970 BUT HAD NO RPT NO SUBSEQUENT APPLICATION, ONE APPLICANT WAS REGISTERED IV SINCE 1966 BUT HAD NO RPT NO NIV APPLICATION, TWO APPLICANTS WERE REFUSED FOR LACK OF TIES, ONE APPLICANT WAS REFUSED AS A LIKELY WORKER (A NOWY TARG FARMER'S WIFE WITH TWO CHILDREN, SHE HAD SPENT TWO YEARS IN THE U.S. WITH A COUSIN, WAS UNABLE TO GIVE A SATISFACTORY ACCOUNT OF HOW SHE MANAGED DURING THAT TIME WITHOUT WORKING, OR WHY), AND ONE APPLICANT WAS REFUSED AS A LIKELY WORKER DUE TO HIS MODEST INCOME, WIFE AND FOUR CHILDREN, AND REQUEST FOR A THREE-MONTH VISIT, TWO WITHOUT PAY. SMIGIEL EXPRESSED COMPLETE UNDERSTANDING, AND VIRTUAL AGREEMENT, WITH THESE REFUSALS WITH EXCEPTION OF THE LAST ONE. EMBASSY AGREED TO TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AND SMIGIEL IN TURN AGREED TO INVESTIGATE AT HIS END AND LET EMBASSY KNOW HIS FINDINGS. EMBASSY WILL AWAIT HIS LETTER. AT POZNAN, ONE CASE WAS ISSUED (HAD NEVER BEEN REFUSED) AND THE OTHER CASE WILL BE ISSUED IN MAY 1974 FOR TRAVEL IN JUNE IN ACCORDANCE WITH APPLICANT'S WISHES.

4. SMIGIEL, WHO IS IN TRUCKING BUSINESS, RAISED POSSIBILITY OF B-2 FOR HIS COUSIN, A RESIDENT OF POZNAN DISTRICT, TO CONSULAR OFFICERS AT BOTH WARSAW AND POZNAN. COUSIN WOULD WORK FOR SMIGIEL IN SUPERVISORY POSITION, BUT SMIGIEL RAISED DOUBT ABOUT COUSIN'S ABILITY TO OBTAIN EMIGRANT PASSPORT, POSSIBLE RED TAPE AND DELAY. CONSUL EXPLAINED LABOR CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT AND SMIGIEL, FINALLY AGREEING THAT HE WAS NOT EXACTLY IN A POSITION TO PRESS FOR A B-2 IN SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES, SAID HE WOULD PURSUE PAPERWORK IN U.S. IN VIEW OF TWO-VISA PROCEDURE, CONSUL SUGGESTED THAT APPLICANT INFORM EMBASSY REGARDLESS OF TYPE OF PASSPORT OBTAINED.

5. DURING COURSE OF LAST CONVERSATION IN WARSAW, CONSUL TOOK OPPORTUNITY TO SHOW SMIGIEL RESULTS OF THE DAY'S NIV BUSINESS, 54 APPROVALS AND 4 REFUSALS. EMBASSY BELIEVES THIS DID MUCH TO REINFORCE GENERAL ASSURANCES OF EMBASSY'S EFFORTS TO BE SYMPATHETIC AND OBJECTIVE.
DAVIES

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